

The True Northerner

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COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM SHOULD CARRY

Arguments of Supervisor Kirby of Covert in Favor of County System of Road Building are Convincing.

ONE of the important questions to come before the voters of Van Buren County next Monday is the "County Road Proposition." This question was put up to the voters of the county once and defeated. Since that time however, Good Roads and Good Road building has received more attention than ever before, and the people of the county are better posted. There are some who oppose the county system, but without doubt it is because they are not posted, or because of some selfish reason. The True Northerner can conceive of no argument in opposition to the county road system, and sincerely hopes that a majority of the voters of Van Buren County will cast their votes in its favor next Monday.

Supervisor E. J. Kirby of Covert has without doubt given the matter as much study and consideration as any man in the county. He has probed the question from all angles, and has observed its operation in counties where it is now in force. He is strongly in favor of the county system, and gives among others the following reasons for his position. The True Northerner urges its readers to peruse the following arguments of Supervisor Kirby very carefully, before making up their minds to vote against the county system:—

The County system takes out of each Township certain main traveled highways designating them as county roads, constructs them and afterwards maintains them at County Expense. Three Highway Commissioners for the County are first appointed by the Board of Supervisors for the first year, after which they are elected by the people the same as any county officer, one for two years one for four years and one for six years. They give such Bonds as the Board of Supervisors may require. At the October session they submit maps and estimates and show what roads are desired as County roads and these must be approved by the Board of Supervisors before any can be built. The Board of Supervisors also determine the method of financing the construction.

Every mile that is built and made a County road is taken out of the various Townships and is built and maintained at County expense and each Township is relieved of so much roadway taken over and in this way can give more time and attention to the other side roads and the roads now neglected. About 50 Counties of the State are now under the County system and the advocates of this system show from experience in these 50 counties the following conclusive facts.

1st. Not a single County desires to go back to the old system.

2nd. Any Township can go on and build as much more road not designated as County road as they desire, the State reward being limited to three miles in each township in one year.

3rd. The board of Supervisors controls the entire County system and no Township is slighted and no road can be built without their approval.

4th. The board of Supervisors alone fixes the tax rate.

5th. All County roads end at the corporation line of incorporation of incorporated cities and villages although these cities and villages are not exempt from any tax for the road construction.

6th. There being State reward on all county roads paid in a State tax, Counties not under the County system and not receiving these rewards, are helping pay for County road construction in other Counties.

7th. The County system gets the roads, gets them where most traveled and most needed and connects them up one township with another, a fact not always possible in independent township construction.

8th. Under the County system it is possible to build difficult stretches in any township that the township in and of itself would not often be able to build by reason of the difficulties presented and the large expense.

9th. Under the present Township law the burden of expense falls almost entirely upon the agricultural residents or farmers, whereas under the County system the Expense for County Roads is divided between the State, the City, the village and the farm. All of the assessable property of the County stands its proportionate share.

10th. If the County system is adopted, all the township officers, including the highway commissioners, are elected just the same every year. The road work does not stop in any township, the townships being relieved only of the roads taken over and made County roads.

11th. The County system makes continuous main roads without a break at the township line.

12th. There are always two experienced men at least, on the Board of County Commissioners, two men that understand and are educated in road building. Highways can be built as they should be built by men whose sole business it is to build and maintain roads.

The County plan tends to economize and save large sums in road construction. Road building is a business proposition.

13th. Under the County system we have system, organization and equipment.

14th. The County system is an equitable plan spreading the cost over all taxable property in the County.

15th. The County system has shown the folly of constructing any piece of road unless it is constructed according to state specifications and a reward for its construction received from the state. Thousands of dollars are wasted each year in improving roads without receiving State reward amounts to nothing more or less than temporary repair and is expensive for any township. The State offers to pay nearly half the expense if they are built right. Why not get this reward in every piece of improved road?

16th. The County system has everywhere proven a success and being entirely in the hands of, and under control of the Board of Supervisors, there is equitable distribution of roads and every township can then care for its side and neglected roads.

MONDAY IS IMPORTANT DAY

Annual Township meeting, Presidential Primary, National Committeemen and County Road Question.

Next Monday April 3 is annual township meeting day. It will be of more than usual interest this year and it is probable that every voter in the county who possible can will be at the polls.

In addition to the regular township officers to be elected and the annual township business to be transacted, comes the Presidential Primary, the election of National Committeemen for the various political parties and the County Road System.

On the Republican Presidential ballot are three names, Senator Wm. Alden Smith, Henry F. Ford and some one from Detroit by the name of Simpson. It is probable that the republicans of the state will show their loyalty to their senior Senator by giving Wm. Alden Smith an overwhelming vote.

There is but one name on the Democratic Presidential ballot, Woodrow Wilson.

For National Committeeman on the republican ticket there is but one name, Hon. Chas. B. Warren of Detroit. On the Democratic ballot two names will be found, the present incumbent, E. O. Wood and Wm. A. Comstock.

The county road system will be the big question in Van Buren County. This question should carry this time. If it does not it will simply be because not enough of the voters of the county understand it. This system is now in force in about 50 counties of the state. These counties all like it. Eventually it will be in force in every county in the state. It is to be sincerely hoped that Van Buren county will be in line this time and cast a vote on the right side of the question. Vote "Yes" on the Road question.

Republican Township Ticket.

Supervisor—T. B. Woodman
Clerk—F. V. Hodges
Treasurer—Ed Nash
Highway Com.—Frank Labadie
Overseer Highways—A. D. Ferguson
Justice of Peace—Ed M. Bailey
Mem. Board of Review—M. H. Young
Constables—Lewis Salisbury
C. W. Reynolds
C. C. Chappell
A. F. Hurlbut

THAT "WET AND DRY" AMENDMENT

A misapprehension seems to exist in the minds of some people as to the effect of a vote on the proposed wet and dry question to be submitted to the electors of the state at the next November general election. It is argued that if the state goes wet the local option law will be wiped out and the saloon become lawful in those counties which have adopted such law. This view is entirely incorrect. The question to be submitted is not "Shall Michigan be Wet or Dry", but shall the constitution of the state be so amended as to make the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors unlawful throughout the entire state. If such proposition is approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon Michigan becomes a prohibition state. If the proposition is rejected at the polls the constitution remains unchanged and the local option law is in no wise affected by such vote. A refusal on the part of the voters of the state to approve a proposed constitutional amendment does not, and from the very nature of the case, cannot affect the laws that are already on the statute books of the state. In a nutshell, if Michigan votes "dry" the liquor traffic becomes an outlaw, but if Michigan votes "wet" matters remain exactly as they were previous to such vote.

Bits of Byplay

By Luke McLuke

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The Reason.

"I thought you told me that women were afraid of mice," demanded the mouse. "Why, I walked right up to a girl a little while ago, and she didn't scare for a cent. She didn't scream, and she didn't bolt. She just shooed me away."

"That is easily explained," replied the wise old rat. "You picked out a girl who had holes in her stockings."

Huh!

The blame mosquito works with skill, But he's a nifty slob; You'll find that he presents his bill Before he does a job.

Mean Brute!

"I wonder if there isn't some way to prevent unhappy marriages," remarked Mrs. Gabb as she looked up from the magazine she was reading.

"Sure, there is," growled Mr. Gabb. "But you will have to convince every man and woman in the United States that they should remain single."

You Know Him.

This Smithers is a gabby mutt. His hot air we regard with scorn; He isn't a musician, but He's always blowing his own horn.

Two Discoveries.

"Brown and his wife each made a discovery this morning," remarked Smith.

"That so?" asked Jones. "What did Brown discover?"

"He discovered that his wife had used his razor to rip the stitches out of an old skirt," replied Smith.

"And what did Mrs. Brown discover?" asked Jones.

"She discovered that there are 2,387 different cuss words in the English language," replied Smith.

Betcha!

"There's one thing that's certain," says old Mr. Peck. "A bolt on the stove is Is worth two on the neck."

Oh!

"It may be all right," says Luke McLuke, "for a bachelor to brag about the fact that we have self government in this country, but a married man might as well keep his mouth shut." Except when he's attending a political convention, where he is free to dispense the latest in oratory while his masters are behind the scenes sewing up the plums.—Arkansas Democrat.

Betcha!

This life would be a merry jaunt, From woe we'd all be free, Were we as honest as we want All other men to be.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

And all of us would now wear wings Like birds that pierce the blue, If we would only do the things Our neighbors want us to.—Nebraska State Journal.

And we would sit in places high, The highest on the earth, If the old world but had the eye To recognize our worth.—Houston Post.

This life would be a Sunday school Without a thing to jar, If people thought us just as good As we believe we are.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Maybe.

Dear Luke—Have you any work around the club for Hugo Telljohn, the Montra (O.) plumber?—Anna, Ohio.

Cheer Up!

Dear Luke—Frankfort, Ky., is a cheerful place. Two of our officials rejoice in the names of Still Smiley and Bland Pleasant.—E. F. M.

Things to Worry About.

Vilhjalmar Stefansson has discovered that part of the Arctic ocean is shallow.

Our Daily Special.

You can always make an enemy by telling a man something for his own good.

Luke McLuke Says:

The ideal married couple is the husband who thinks that he gets all the best of the deal and the wife who thinks that she is getting all the best of the deal. But there ain't no such animals.

Some men go through life with the idea that if they are good they will be miserable.

When he is first married he goes home to be comforted when he has trouble of any kind, but it is different after he has been married for awhile.

A few men go to the polls to vote for somebody, but most of us go there to vote against somebody.

A girl never has any trouble in making a decision when a man is too old for her to marry and too rich for her not to.

A young mother will spend two hours rocking the baby to sleep, and five minutes after the baby falls asleep she will awaken it by raising its eyelids to see if its eyes have changed color since it closed them.

A man doesn't have to be in politics very long to realize that it is safer to ride on a steam roller than it is to try and butt it off the road.

If a man handed you 15 cents out of his pocket every time he met you you would think he was crazy. But if he doesn't ask you to have a drink every time you meet him you regard him as a tightwad.

Queen Quality
Boston Favorite
Shoes for Women

W. R. SELICK

Walk-Over and
Florsheim shoes
for Men.

Buster Brown Shoes for Boys and Girls



WHY WEAR
that discouraged
look? Wear
WALKOVERS--
the spring models
are now here.

\$3.50 \$4.00 \$4.50 \$5.00

We are now featuring the

Florsheim Shoe

the standard of Men's Fine Footwear. Styles of the times in a variety of shapes and leathers are now being displayed

\$5.00

Our new Queen Quality



Stock of Colonail and Pump designs has arrived. We have any number of splendid models in low and high cuts to show you.

The very latest
thought in high
and low cuts.



If Its Hardware

You will Find it at

THE YELLOW FRONT

Marbles

Mail Boxes

Clothes Bars

Grape Twine

Grape Shears

Ironing Boards

Tub Wringers

Wire Stretchers

Garland Ranges

Machanic's Tools.

Jackstones and Balls

Perfection Oil Heaters

Cole's High Oven Ranges

Wagner cast Aluminumware

Coaster and Express Wagons

Four grades of Roller Skates

Jackson Fence—get our prices

Bicycle Ball Bearing Wringers

Storm and Bird Proof Barn Door Track.

Builder's Hardware— a complete assortment.

Bicycle Tires—new stock at last year's price

Perfection Oil Stoves—low or high burner

Maytag Washing Machine—hand or belt power.

Reed's 4-coat enamel Wash Bowls, Pitchers, Combinets

We want you to try one or more of our Bon Max Chick

Fountains at 10c. each.



We aim to be upright
in our dealings. We
put

Our Meats UpRight

Making it easy to cook
carve and consume
them.

tablespoonfuls of milk and water; cover with sifted bread crumbs and fry in deep fat.

Munnerly's Cash Market

Cornish Cutlets

Trim slices of cold Lamb into pieces of the same shape and size; sprinkle them with salt, pepper and a few drops of tomato catsup. Have ready some well seasoned hot, mashed potatoes into which two yolks of eggs have been beaten. Cover each slice of meat with potato and make the surface smooth with a knife. Dip in a beaten egg, diluted with three or four